RESOLUTION 14-133

Resolution of the City of Westfield Supporting Hamilton County Schools

WHEREAS, the City of Westfield, ("City") is a duly formed municipal corporation within the State of Indiana, governed by its duly elected Mayor and Common Council ("Council"); and,

WHEREAS, the Council has the duty and authority to maintain the fiscal integrity and economic growth of the City by cooperation and supporting other taxing units of government when prudent; and,

WHEREAS, Hamilton County is an economic engine for growth providing high levels of income and property taxes to the state of Indiana;

WHEREAS, Hamilton County attracts high-growth, high-performing corporate citizens and a highly educated workforce by offering families outstanding public education options in all six of its public school corporations;

WHEREAS, the schools of Hamilton County are among the highest performing schools in the state of Indiana:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County schools receive some of the lowest per-pupil funding of all schools – despite their demonstrable records of achievement and success;

WHEREAS, the current system of school funding does not provide a sustainable level of basic funding for schools which result in disparities in school funding that are not transparent or research-based;

WHEREAS, Hamilton county schools are not in keeping up with the federal cost of living adjustments with the revenue received by the state;

WHEREAS, Hamilton County's elected officials and business community recognize that the County's continue growth, development, and economic contributions to the state of Indiana depends on offering excellent schools that produce high-achieving citizens;

WHEREAS, the current school funding issues jeopardize the long-term sustainability of Hamilton County school corporations;

WHEREAS, a lack of equitable funding reduces opportunities for students to optimize their learning potential;

WHEREAS, reliance on referendum funding requires school corporations to expend vast amounts of energy to prepare for and pass a taxpayer referendum rather than improving educational programs;

WHEREAS, Hamilton County schools desire to partner with the state of Indiana to provide viable and sustainable school funding that supports Indiana's high-performing schools.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Westfield City Common Council meeting in session as follows:

Section 1. To promote sustainable schools, Westfield Washington Schools requests that the state of Indiana allocate its resources for education funding equally across all schools. Any deviations from the base funding should be determined on factors that can be proven through research and recognize and reward performance accountability. No community should be forced to double-tax its citizens in order to support their educational programs.

Section 2. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon adoption.

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ALL OF WHICH IS RESOLVED THIS 16 DAY OF 2014.

WESTFIELD CITY COUNCIL

Voting For	Voting Against	<u>Abstain</u>
Jim Ake	Jim Ake	Jim Ake
Steven Hoover	Steven Hoover	Steven Hoover
Robert L. Horkay	Robert L. Horkay	Robert L. Horkay
Charles Lehman	Charles Lehman	Charles Lehman
Robert J. Smith	Robert J. Smith	Robert J. Smith
Cindy L. Spoljaric	Cindy L. Spoljaric	Cindy L. Spoljaric
Robert W. Stokes	Robert W. Stokes	Robert W. Stokes
ATTEST: Cindy J. Gossard, Clerk Treasu	esl irer	

I hereby certify that RESOLUTION 14-133 v			eld
on the	014, at	8!35A m.	
Certy Grand			
Cindy J. Gossard, Clerk Treasurer			
I hereby APPROVE resolution 14-133	I hereby	VETO resolution 14-133	
this	this	day of	_, 2014
Dan Cont			
J. Andrew Cook, Mayor	J. Andre	w Cook, Mayor	
ATTEST:			
Certy Disser			
Cindy I Gossard Clerk Treasurer			

This document prepared by Brian J. Zaiger, Esq. KRIEG DEVAULT, LLP (317) 238-6266